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## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method, comprising: receiving a specification for translating a network policy from a first schema to a second, different schema; translating the network policy into the second different schema based on the specification; and 5 6

configuring a network system based on the translated policy.

- 2. The method  $\phi f$  claim 1 wherein the network policy is represented in a tag-based language.
- 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the specification is received in a file from a policy server.
- 4. The method of claim 3 wherein the file also contains the policy.
- 5. An article comprising a machine-readable medium which stores machine-executable instructions for checking events performed by a device, the instructions causing a machine to:

receive a specification for translating a policy from a first schema to a second different schema;

translate the network policy into the second different schema based on the specification; and configure a network system based on the translated

policy.

- 6. The article of claim 5 wherein the network policy is represented in eXtensible Markup Language and the specifidation is represented in extensible Stylesheet Language.
- 7. The article of claim 5 wherein the specification is received 1 2 in a file from a policy server.

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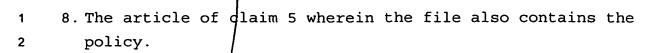
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- 9. An apparatus comprising:
- a memory which stores computer readable instructions; and a processor which executes the computer readable instructions to:

receive a specification for translating a policy
from a first schema to a second, different schema;
translate the network policy into the second
different schema based on the specification; and

configure a network system based on the translated policy.

- 10. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the network policy is represented in eXtensible Markup Language and the specification is represented in eXtensible Stylesheet Language.
- 11. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the specification is received in a file from a policy server.
- 12. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the file also contains the policy.
- 13. A method comprising:
- storing a network policy for configuring a network system according to a first schema;
  - storing a specification for translating the network policy from the first schema to a second different schema; translating the network policy into the second different schema based on the specification; and
- sending the translated network policy to a client computer.

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14. The method of claim 13, further comprising:	
prior to translating the network policy:	
sending the network policy to the client	computer
sending the specification for translating	g the
network policy to the client computer; and	
receiving an indication that the client of	computer
cannot translate the network policy.	

- The method of claim 13 wherein the network policy is represented in eXtensible Markup Language and the specification is represented in extensible Stylesheet Language.
- The method of claim 13 wherein the network policy and the specification are stored in one file.
- 17. An article comprising a computer-readable medium which stores computer-executable instructions for checking events performed by a device, the instructions causing a machine to:

store a network policy for configuring a network system according to a first schema;

store a specification for translating the network policy from the first schema to a second different schema;

translate the network policy into the second different schema based on the specification; and

send the translated network policy to a client computer.

The article of claim 17, wherein the instructions further cause the machine to:

prior to translating the network policy:

send the network policy to the client computer; send the specification for translating the network policy to the client computer; and

receive an indication that the client computer cannot translate the network policy.

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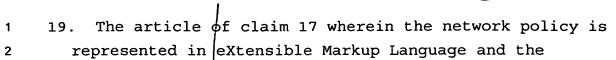
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specification is represented in extensible Stylesheet 3

Language. 4

- The article of claim 17 wherein the network policy and 1 the specification are stored in one file. 2
- An apparatus comprising: 1
  - a memory which stores computer readable instructions; a processor which executes the computer readable instructions to:

store a network policy for configuring a network system according to a first schema;

store a specification for translating the network policy from the first schema to a second different schema;

translate the network policy into the second different schema based on the specification; and

send the translated network policy to a client computer.

The apparatus of claim 21 wherein, prior to translating the network policy, the processor executes the instructions to:

send the network policy to the client computer; send the specification for translating the network policy to the client computer; and

receive an indication that the client computer cannot translate the network policy.

- The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the network policy is represented in eXtensible Markup Language and the specification is represented in eXtensible Stylesheet Language
- The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the network policy and 1 the specification are stored in one file. 2

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1	25. A method of configuring a network comprising:
2	transmitting a network policy according to a first schema
3	and a specification for translating the network policy from
4	the first schema to a second different schema from a server;
5	receiving the network policy and the specification on a
6	first client computer;

translating on the client computer the network policy from the first schema to the second different schema using the specification; and

configuring the network system on the first client computer using on the translated network policy.

26. The method of claim 25 further comprising: receiving the network policy on a second client computer; and

configuring the network system on the second client computer using on the network policy.

27. The method of claim 25 further comprising: receiving the network policy on a third client computer; transmitting to the server an indication that the third client computer cannot translate the network policy; translating on the server the network policy from the first schema to the second different schema using the specification; and

transmitting the translated network policy to the third client computer.

- 1 The method of claim 27 wherein the network policy is represented in eXtensible Markup Language and the 2 specification is represented in extensible Stylesheet 3 Language. 4
- The method of claim 27 wherein the network policy and the 1 specification are contained in one file. 2
  - A method of creating a file for configuring a network system comprising:



adding network data to the file; and adding a specification for translating the network data from a first schema to a second schema. 5